

Serve Wisconsin!

Wisconsin National and Community Service Board
Annual Report
2003 - 2004



service

resources

results

rewards



Celebrating ten years of enriching lives through service in Wisconsin communities.



AmeriCorps members and staff at the Opening Ceremony at Volk Field, Camp Douglas in October 2003.

OUR MISSION

to enrich lives and
communities through service
and volunteerism.



Why Serve Wisconsin?

The Wisconsin National and Community Service Board has had a busy and successful year, despite cutbacks at the federal level that slashed the number of AmeriCorps slots awarded to each state. To recognize all of our hard work in the areas of community service and volunteerism in the state of Wisconsin, we would like to announce our new marketing name - **Serve Wisconsin!** With Serve Wisconsin as our public name, we are confident that our organization will be easier to recognize and much easier to remember.



JIM DOYLE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF WISCONSIN

Greetings!

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate the Wisconsin National and Community Service Board on 10 years of outstanding service to the State of Wisconsin. The Board has worked diligently for a decade to improve the lives of Wisconsin citizens by supporting community service and volunteerism. By becoming AmeriCorps members, ordinary citizens have the opportunity to serve their communities in a variety of ways – educating and mentoring young people, building homes for low-income families – helping to meet basic human needs.

The lives of thousands of Wisconsin's citizens are enriched every day because of our dedicated service organizations and volunteers. Government alone cannot solve every problem or meet every need, we must also rely on citizens helping their fellow citizens. This is the principle that drives programs like AmeriCorps.

The 2003-2004 program year was a very turbulent period for AmeriCorps programs in Wisconsin, and nationwide. Each state took a great cut in the number of AmeriCorps member positions they were able to grant out because of a lack of federal funding. Wisconsin was awarded only 273 full-time positions, compared to the 638 that were awarded the previous year. This caused many AmeriCorps programs to operate at reduced levels, and some programs to lose funding altogether.

Despite all of the cuts, AmeriCorps members made countless valuable contributions to their communities. The work of AmeriCorps members resulted in the completion of more than 440,000 hours of community service, and the mobilization of more than 6,400 community volunteers that completed an additional 65,800 hours of service.

This report is a review of what the Wisconsin National and Community Service Board accomplished during the 2003-2004 program year. More importantly, this report recognizes the people and organizations that partnered with the Board to provide the community service opportunities that improved the lives countless people. On behalf of our state, I thank you for your efforts.

The spirit of service and volunteerism is alive and well in Wisconsin. I hope that this report will inspire you to serve and make a difference in the life of a fellow citizen.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Jim Doyle in black ink.

Jim Doyle
Governor





Enhancing Wisconsin Communities

AmeriCorps members are “getting things done” in Wisconsin!

AmeriCorps, often referred to as the domestic Peace Corps, gives citizens the opportunity to engage in full- and part-time service to their communities. Through their participation in AmeriCorps programs, citizens are given the opportunity to not only enrich the lives of the people and communities they serve, but also their own lives through professional and personal development. In 2003-2004, AmeriCorps members spent over **440,000 hours of service** in their communities by:

Recruiting volunteers

AmeriCorps members recruited over **6,400 volunteers** who provided over **65,800 hours** of community service.

Tutoring and mentoring children and adults

Over **850 students** received tutoring in order to improve literacy skills.

Involving young people in service-learning projects

Over **4,300 students** in the Milwaukee Public School system participated in service-learning projects in the classrooms of AmeriCorps teachers.

Reducing alcohol, tobacco, and other drug abuse in youth

578 youth were involved in local programming aimed at alcohol and other drug prevention.

Providing services to runaway and homeless youth

Over **1,100 youth** were referred to runaway programs statewide.

Reducing hunger

Almost **24,000 meals** were served and over **3,450 bags of groceries** were distributed.

Helping citizens to prepare for disasters

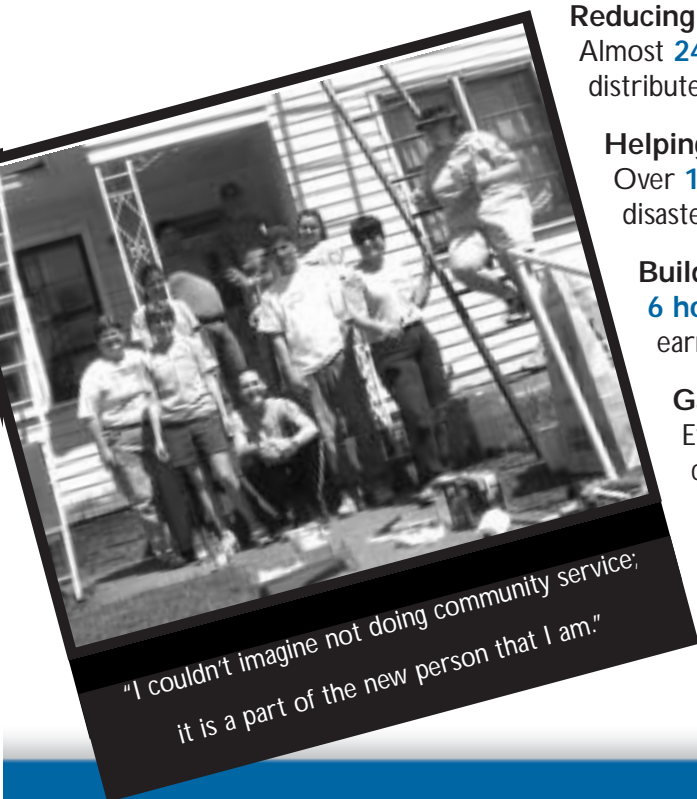
Over **168,000 Wisconsin residents** were trained in disaster preparedness through over **1,800 disaster** education activities.

Building low-income housing

6 houses were built for low-income families, all homes earned the Energy Star Home Certification.

Gaining and practicing citizenship skills

Every AmeriCorps member in Wisconsin was trained in citizenship and civic responsibility.



“I couldn’t imagine not doing community service;
it is a part of the new person that I am.”



Providing Service

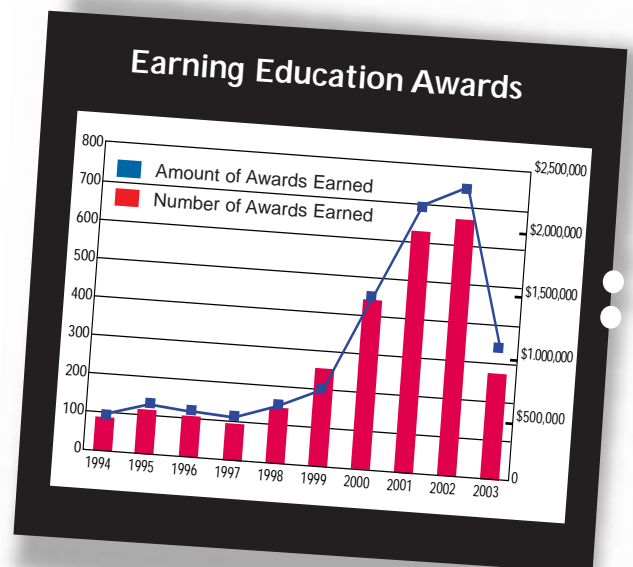
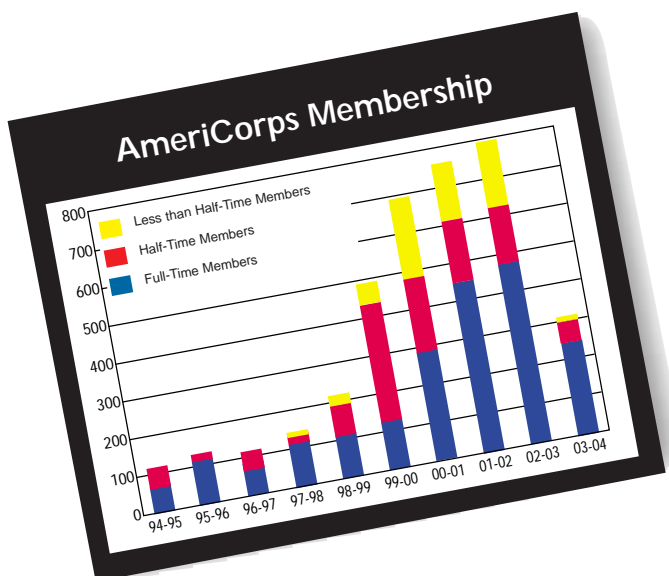
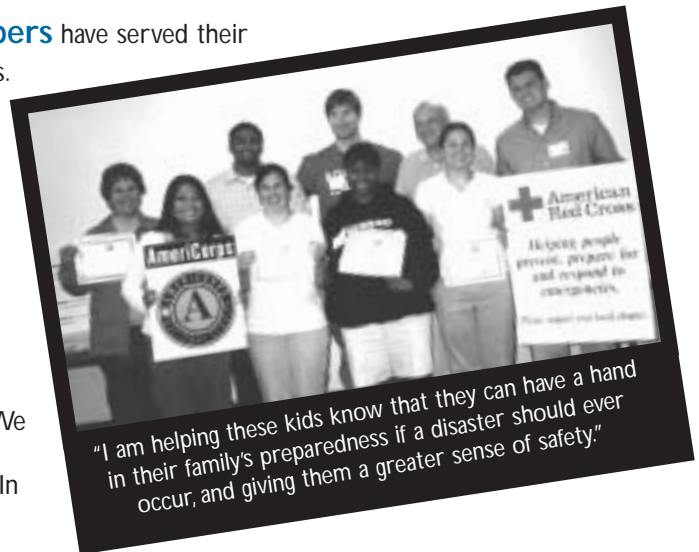
Since 1994 in Wisconsin, over **3,700 AmeriCorps members** have served their communities, earning more than **\$9.5 million** in education awards. These members have served over **3.5 million hours** in over 25 different programs statewide.

In program year **2003-2004** in Wisconsin, over **300 members** completed more than **440,000 hours** of service to their communities. More than 275 members earned a total of over **\$1.1 million** in education awards, which they can use to help pay for college or job training or to pay back student loans.

AmeriCorps members come from all backgrounds and walks of life. We are proud of the diverse group of citizens who have served their communities through AmeriCorps programs in all areas of the state. In fact, AmeriCorps members tend to be more racially diverse than the population of Wisconsin as a whole. **In 2003-2004, 28% of AmeriCorps members were African American or Asian, compared to fewer than 10% of the population of Wisconsin as a whole.**

Membership was **66% female** and **34% male**. More than **80% had post-secondary work or degrees**. The majority of members were in their 20s and 30s with 46% aged 20-29 and 23% aged 30-39. The oldest member serving in 2003-2004 was 74 and the youngest was 16.

AmeriCorps members served in **38 counties** in Wisconsin. See map on page 5.



GRAPH NOTE: Lower numbers in 2003-2004 reflect program cuts at the federal level.



Supporting Local Initiatives

*The following agencies received an AmeriCorps grant from the Wisconsin National and Community Service Board during the 2003-2004 program year:
(Number corresponds to map on Page 5)*

American Red Cross Badger Chapter (6)

Program Name: Prepare Wisconsin AmeriCorps Program

Number of Members: 20 Full-time, 9 Minimum-time

Description: AmeriCorps members helped facilitate delivery of community-based disaster preparedness education in 12 Red Cross chapters around the state, both urban and rural.

Contact:

Mariann Muzzi, (608) 227-1257,
mmuzzi@arcbadger.org

Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation (2)

Program Name: Project Forward AmeriCorps

Number of Members: 14 Full-time

Description: Project Forward is a youth development initiative involving 26 community partners throughout the state. AmeriCorps members were placed at sites to strengthen community-based strategies that reduce alcohol, tobacco, and other drug abuse and attendant problems in children and youth.

Contact:

Brian Blahnik, (715) 221-8403,
blahnik.brian@marshfieldclinic.org

Milwaukee Teacher Education Center (MTEC) (8 & 9)

Program Names: Learning By Serving Our Community (EAP);
Linking School & Community Through Service-Learning (Formula)

Number of Members: 125 Full-time (EAP);
14 Full-time (Formula)

Special Requirements: Bachelor's degree

Description: Through MTEC's AmeriCorps programs, Resident Teachers involved their students in service-learning projects, helping to connect Milwaukee Public Schools students with the community.

Contacts:

Susan Ballje, (414) 227-2507,
balljes@mail.milwaukee.k12.wi.us (EAP)

Felicia Fairfield, (414) 227-2556,
fairfif@mail.milwaukee.k12.wi.us (Formula)

North Central Community Action Program (3)

Program Name: AmeriCorps Team-Greater Wausau Area

Number of Members: 10 Full-time, 8 Half-time

Description: Members provided services at 12 Greater Wausau area organizations and schools as mentors to youth and as tutors to students in elementary and secondary schools and to adults needing to upgrade basic skills.

Contact:

Josie Paleologue-Pierce, (715) 849-5212,
josieameri-corps@dwave.net

Operation Fresh Start, Dane County Energy Conservation Corps (4)

Number of Members: 24 Half-time

Age Range: 17 to 24-years-old

Description: Members built houses that met Wisconsin Energy Star homes standards, thereby providing first-time homeowners with quality low-cost housing. In addition, members had access to HSED and basic skills instruction.

Contact:

Connie Ferris Bailey, (608) 244-4721,
cferrisbailey@operationfreshstart.org

Public Allies, Inc., Public Allies Milwaukee (10)

Number of Members: 14 Full-time

Age Range: 18 to 30-years-old

Description: Public Allies Milwaukee advances diverse young leaders to strengthen communities, nonprofits, and civic participation. Members were placed in full-time, paid, professional apprenticeships at nonprofit organizations and participated in team building, leadership training, and team service projects.

Contact:

Tonya Crampton, (414) 383-8274,
tonyac@publicallies.org



Wisconsin Association for Runaway Services (5)

Program Name: Direct Service Outreach to Runaways

Number of Members: 22 Full-time, 3 Half-time

Description: Members provided a variety of direct services to runaway, homeless, and youth in crisis, such as street outreach, assistance with family mediation, and school referrals. Service sites were located throughout the state.

Contacts:

Patricia Balke, (608) 241-2649,
pbalke@sbcglobal.net;

John Babbitt, (414) 352-5103

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (7)

Program Name: Literacy for Learning and Life

Number of Members: 9 Full-time, 10 Half-time

Description: AmeriCorps members enhanced the literacy skills of young children, grades K-3, through direct tutoring and recruitment of volunteer tutors and mentors in school districts and non-profit agencies across the state.

Contact:

Steve Kretzmann, (608) 267-9278,
stephen.kretzmann@dpi.state.wi.us

Workforce Connections (1)

Program Name: YES AmeriCorps

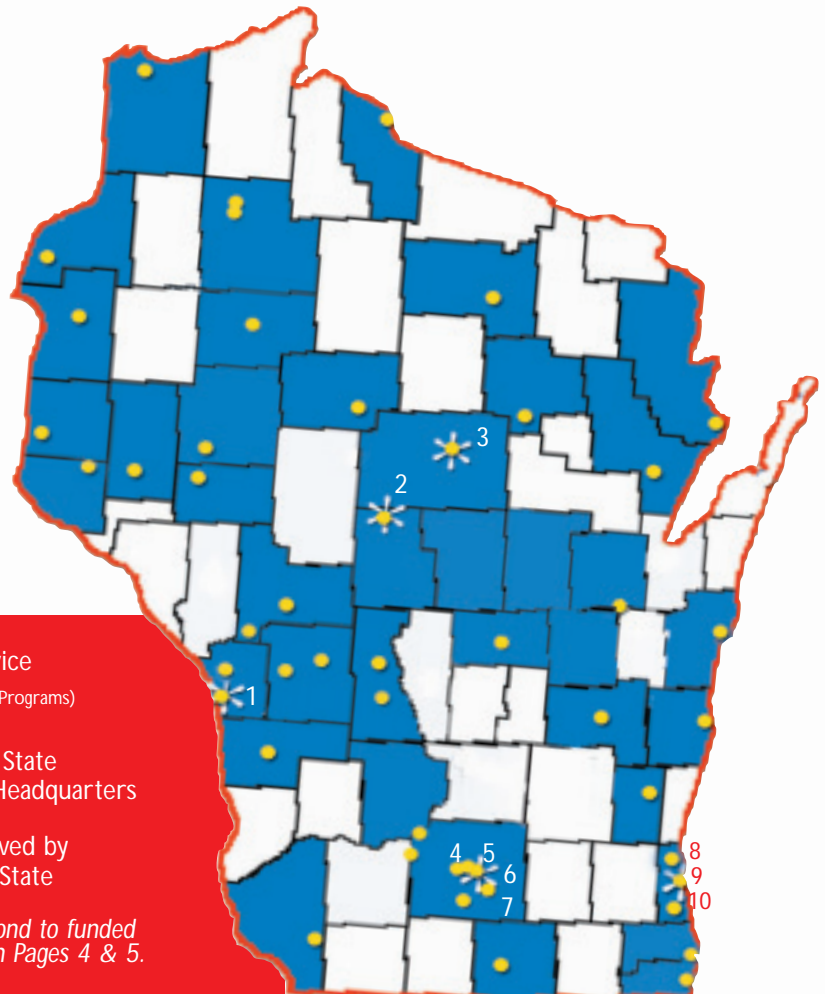
Number of Members: 22 Full-time, 11 Half-time,
13 Minimum-time

Description: Members established relationships with at-risk youth, tutored and provided academic assistance, and engaged youth in community service. Members also worked in a community garden and served at food pantries and free meal sites. Members were placed at schools and community-based organizations in the LaCrosse area.

Contact:

Jeri Zagrodnick, (608) 789-5643,
ZagrodnickJ@wwtc.edu

Linda Zimmerman, (608) 785-7003,
ZimmermanL@wwtc.edu



- Member Service Sites (Statewide Programs)
- * AmeriCorps State Subgrantee Headquarters
- Counties Served by AmeriCorps State

Numbers correspond to funded programs listed on Pages 4 & 5.



Training & Program Development

AmeriCorps Member Events

The Wisconsin National and Community Service Board (WNCSB) annually hosts two events for AmeriCorps members and program staff to network, attend workshops, and celebrate their service commitments and accomplishments. Approximately 200 AmeriCorps members and program staff attended the Opening Ceremony in October 2003, where they recited the AmeriCorps pledge and learned many new skills for their year of service. Over 225 people attended the Service Celebration in June 2004. Many AmeriCorps members took the opportunity to share their year of service through a reflection book that was distributed at the Service Celebration.

AmeriCorps Program Staff Events and Training

In April 2004, the WNCSB partnered with the Department of Public Instruction and the Corporation for National and Community Service State Office for the Wisconsin National Service Conference, which was attended by 225 representatives of national service. Joel Orosz, the author of the *Insider's Guide to Grantmaking* provided a powerful keynote address. Sessions at the conference included such topics as fundraising, community collaboration, and volunteer management.

The WNCSB also held seven networking and training sessions for AmeriCorps program directors on topics such as WBRS, eGrants, and the Unified State Plan.

Governor's Community Service Awards

The second annual Governor's Community Service Awards were held on the evening of April 21, 2004 during the Wisconsin National Service Conference. The Governor's Awards honor outstanding national service participants and programs that help solve serious social problems and meet their community's needs. Six outstanding awardees were honored as follows:

Community Service Impact Award:

Foster Grandparent Program at Lincoln Hills School.

Service-Learning Award:

Oral History Project at D.C. Everest Area Schools.

Community Service Effective Practice Award:

Social Development Commission's Senior Companion Program.

Exemplary Community Service Participant Awards:

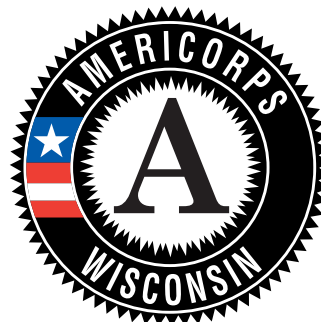
Becca Klaver, AmeriCorps*VISTA;
Joe Lovett, RSVP;
Mary McCarty, AmeriCorps*VISTA

Other

- The WNCSB facilitated four meetings for the Wisconsin AmeriCorps Leadership Council (WALC), comprised of AmeriCorps member representatives from each AmeriCorps program.
- A representative of the WNCSB Board attended the National Service Convention in Kansas City in June 2004.



Lt Governor Lawton presents WNCSB with a commendation for ten years of service at the Wisconsin National Service Conference.



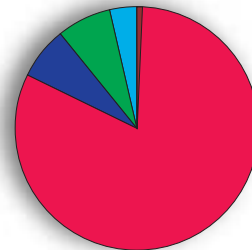


Providing Resources

The Wisconsin National and Community Service Board (WNCSB) was established in 1994 in response to the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993, creating AmeriCorps and the Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency, to expand opportunities for Americans to serve their communities. The WNCSB was established by Executive Order 214 and Wisconsin Act 437 and is a governor-appointed board. Since its establishment, the WNCSB has administered over \$21.2 million in AmeriCorps grants supporting community service activities throughout Wisconsin.

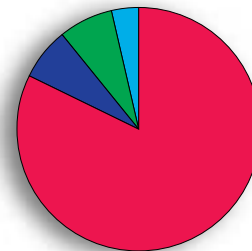
WNCSB Income/Grants Received 2003-2004

AmeriCorps Grants (Federal)	\$2,019,408
Administrative Grant (Federal)	\$247,993
Administrative Grant Matching Funds (State, Cash, & In-kind)	\$247,993
Training Grant (Federal)	\$109,000
Disability Grant (Federal)	\$38,500



WNCSB Expenses/Grant Expenditures 2003-2004

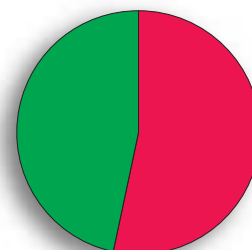
AmeriCorps Grant (Federal)	\$1,771,064
Administrative Grant (Federal)	\$247,993
Administrative Grant Matching Funds (State, Cash, & In-kind)	\$247,993
Training Grant (Federal)	\$109,000
Disability Grant (Federal)	\$0



AmeriCorps Program Expenditures 2003-2004

What follows is the amount of AmeriCorps funding expended by the 10 AmeriCorps programs funded by the WNCSB in 2003-2004 and the amount of local matching funds that these programs raised to support their AmeriCorps programs. For each grant dollar spent, the programs provided \$0.77 of matching funds.

AmeriCorps Grants (Federal)	\$1,771,064
AmeriCorps Grants Matching Funds (Cash & In-kind)	\$1,361,743





Board Roster

Tom Metcalfe, President
Secretary Marc Marotta,
Designee Janet Hamik, Vice President
Adrian Adekola
State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster
Designee Richard Grobschmidt
Cameron Dary
Connie Ferris Bailey
Marguita Fox
Secretary Roberta Gassman
Designee Lucía Nuñez
Kathleen Groat
Robert Guenther
Lance Hanson
Joel Haubrich
Karen Peck Katz
Walter Kraemer

Secretary Helene Nelson
Designee Amy McDowell
Harold Reckelberg
Nathaniel Robinson
Secretary John Scocos
Designee Larry Kleinsteiber
Linda Sunde
Adjutant General Al Wilkening
Designee Larry Olson
Jeanan Yasiri

Staff Roster

Tom Devine, Executive Director
Vincent Borleske, Program Officer
Kristi Conway, Program Officer
Gloria Nikolas, PDAT Program Officer
Jennifer Rodis, Program Officer

Getting Involved in National Service

Operate an AmeriCorps Program

Two-thirds of all AmeriCorps program funds flow directly to the states to entities called “state commissions” through a population-based formula and a national competition. The WNCSB is Wisconsin’s state commission. The WNCSB supports service in Wisconsin primarily by granting AmeriCorps funds to organizations that involve citizens in service activities that meet human, educational, environmental, public safety, and homeland security needs. AmeriCorps grants are made to nonprofit organizations, state and local units of government, institutions of higher education, and Native American tribes. The WNCSB holds a competition for AmeriCorps funding annually. Grants typically fund at least 20 full-time equivalent AmeriCorps positions.

Join AmeriCorps

An individual must be a U.S. citizen, national, or legal permanent resident alien of the U.S. and at least 17 years old to be an AmeriCorps member. For most programs there are no upper age limits. Some programs request skills in certain areas, and others look for a

bachelor’s degree or a few years of related volunteer/job experience. For others, an individual’s motivation and commitment may be the primary requirement.

Get Involved in Other Service Opportunities

Each state houses a Corporation for National and Community Service State Office that manages AmeriCorps*VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) and the Senior Corps programs, such as RSVP, Senior Companions, and Foster Grandparents. The Wisconsin office is located in Milwaukee; for more information contact Linda Sunde at 414-297-1118.

For More Information

To find out about AmeriCorps service opportunities across the country, visit www.americorps.org. Visit the WNCSB website at www.serve.wisconsin.org for more information about the board and AmeriCorps in Wisconsin. Or call our toll-free number: 1-800-620-8307.



"One of my students asked me to come to his GED graduation. I feel I have really made a difference in his life."
—AmeriCorps member,
AmeriCorps Team
Greater Wausau Area



"We had a Family Reading Night for Dr. Seuss' birthday. We were hoping to get 400 books donated by families, enough so that each child could bring home a book. We had over 1,200 books donated."
—Laurie Brown, Literacy for Learning and Life



"I am motivated by the challenges and opportunities that I am given day after day to have an impact on a student's life, through tutoring and mentoring, both in and out of the classroom."
—Angela Schmidt, YES AmeriCorps



"I hope to be of service to as many people as possible."

— Sister Jeanine Luger,
YES AmeriCorps



"This week I had a client who found a job! I have been working with him since I first began and he has been actively searching for a job since we started working together. I really feel good about my job today like I made a difference."
— Michelle Hill, Public Allies



Serve Wisconsin!

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